

# canadian camping

**CAMPING...OUR PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE.**



## c.r. blackstock

L.B. Sharp came to Toronto in 1940, and told us it was time to give camping back to the campers. Sharp was the director of Life Magazine Camps out of New York City. He was a pioneer in U.S. camping and had proved it could be done with youth from the slums. Groups of 8 campers with 2 good leaders were camping successfully in the New Jersey mountain owned and operated by the Time-Life Company.

Sharp argued that we should all have a purpose for our camps, that we should know what we are trying to do, and, that the purpose should be well stated. Also the campers should be able to decide what kind of programme they wanted to follow. This assumed the camper group was small enough to go its own way. Purposes for each camper group had to be feasible enough within the framework of the site, facilities, equipment and leadership resources.

Some of the purposes put forward were: to have a camper learn to love a horse; to be a champion swimmer, to be a basketball player; to be a mountain climber; to be  
(cont. on page 3)



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SUITE 203, 102 EGLINTON AVENUE EAST • TORONTO, ONTARIO M4P 1E1  
TELEPHONE (416) 488-7345

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# A Director's Checklist

by Eanswythe Flynn



This is the last chance to do a double-take on all the Ins and Outs of good camping.. ..check the grounds, oversee repairs, painting and replacements to be satisfied that they have been completed. Go over the list of preparations we have made for you in the past issues of Canadian Camping. If anything is still not as you would like it in your own situation....then DO IT NOW!

## JUNE

There should be little to list, actually, at this time of year. You might check to see that you have this year's Test Sheets for canoeing and swimming awards, enough to last the summer. If there are any other new forms you should be using, order the supply now.

Your Staff Manual should be distributed to all your staff members by the end of the first week of June at the latest.

Continue to send drinking water and swimming water samples to Provincial Departments of Health at their required intervals.

Check with Departments of Lands and Forests or Ministries of Natural Resources about canoe routes and hiking areas, and the cost, if any of sending groups over Government owned property.

Be sure that staff contracts have been received and all their necessary forms signed. The information letter concerning their arrival at camp and other pertinent information should be mailed to your staff.

Set up the Infirmary. Check supplies (see page 7 of February's Canadian Camping). Have they been delivered as ordered? Are campers' Health Forms and their Doctors' Certificates coming in? Have you enough file cards for your records and a suitable place to file them?

Check on final arrangements for the pre-camp staff session and make certain all is in readiness for the arrival of the staff.

Prepare for the arrival of kitchen staff. Supervise their training. Be sure that they understand the provincial health regulations and the importance of absolute cleanliness in this area, not only for the Health Inspectors, but for everyday cooking, eating and cleaning.

Check garbage disposal system, cleanliness of garbage pails and efficiency of garbage removal to the town dump, compost heap, or other local area.

Check grounds for loose nails and broken glass, boards or logs out of place on paths, around buildings or anywhere campers may walk or run, for any holes or open pits which could be a hazard.

Prepare for arrival of campers. Have staff ready with lists of names and cabin groups, trained to meet parents and give a warm welcome to campers.

FROM HERE ON... MAY YOUR SUMMER BE A HAPPY, HEALTHFUL ONE.

"The secret of success is constancy of purpose."

- Disraeli

to be a wilderness canoe tripper; an actor; a musician; a better scholar; and, not least, a good all-round skilled, well-adjusted person who loved the outdoors.

Many agreed.

The pioneers in camping in Canada were YMCA and YWCA leaders, educators and church leaders. Most programmes had a religious content, the Canadian Standard Efficiency Programme (C.G.I.T., Trail Rangers and Tuxis Boys) was developed in the first two decades of this century - the purpose to develop a "four square" person. The Boy Scouts developed programmes at the same time.

The Y's were among the first to recognize the value of the new educational philosophy. Applied to camping the individual was recognized as unique, should have more choice in what he wanted to do or become, that he should be responsible for his own actions and take the consequences.

Many of the leaders in camping came from the schools and colleges. Camping in "the thirties", was subjected to the "tests and measurements" wave that went through education generally. Camping people had made great claims of how good it was for the health of the campers. All that fresh air, vigorous activity, and the "roughing it" experiences had to be good.

Camping became self-conscious and began measuring the effects of the experience. Social values, behavioral changes, health changes, learning increments. Soon we had all kinds of standards established against which camps could be given performance ratings. The Camping Associations "policed" their members and made conforming to the standards a necessary condition for membership.

In "the forties" camping began to be recognized as a possible complementary part of public education. Camping was recognized as providing vivid learning with the real thing right in your hand. Gordon Young, a Canadian who went to New South Wales, set up the first school camps there. Late in the decade a few were tried in Canada. And the Department of Education began to include it as Outdoor Education.

The shift from the classroom, initiated by the school camping group, to where the real action was continued through "the fifties" Social Studies, geography, history, science, biology, conservation, all were studies on site.

In the "sixties and seventies", camping has responded to the need parents and our

(cont. on page 12 )

# Report

## LIAISON WITH NATIONAL AGENCIES COMMITTEE

One of the recommendations of the Task Force on Canadian Camping was that the C.C.A. initiate stronger liaison with other national organizations and associations.

More effective communication should result in more effective treatment of mutual concerns and interests.

In response the executive established the Liaison with National Agencies Committee to open up channels of exchange.

This committee has had several meetings and received very positive results and comments from an exploratory letter and form sent out to over 40 national agencies and associations. Following is a list resulting from the committee's efforts. Some contacts are still being sought so this is not a final list.

The contacts have been categorized into lists based on the suggested intensity of liaison with the C.C.A. which seems appropriate at this point in time. The addresses of the following are on file in the C.C.A. office (416) 488-7345.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A.   | C.   |
| Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada                         | Canadian Association of Rehabilitation Personnel |
| Boy Scouts of Canada                                   | Canadian Bar Association                         |
| Canadian Recreational Association                      | Canadian National Institute for the Blind        |
| The Canadian Red Cross Society                         | Canadian Rehabilitation Council for the Disabled |
| Canadian Yachting Association                          | Canada Safety Council                            |
| Royal Life Saving Society of Canada                    | Canadian Ski Association                         |
| The Salvation Army                                     | The Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada     |
| The National Council of YMCA's of Canada               | National Institute on Mental Retardation         |
| Girl Guides of Canada                                  |  |
| National Interchurch Camp Committee                    |  |
| Christian Camping International                        |  |
| B.   |  |
| Canadian Association for Health and Physical Education |  |
| Canadian Parks and Recreation Association              |  |
| National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada    |  |
| Synchro Swim Canada                                    |  |
| St. John Ambulance                                     |  |

"Let us not be blind to our differences- but let us also direct attention to our common interests and the means by which those differences can be resolved. And if we cannot end our differences, at least we can make the world safe for diversity."

J.F.K.

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# Editorial

## MIRACLES

The summer of "Seventy-eight " is on the horizon and, like each summer before it, it will be unique, it must stand or fall on its own merit. At our Camps a hundred thousand miracles will happen... the miracle of learning to move through the water by ourselves - the miracle of a morning sunrise - the miracle of touching the earth - the miracle of a chance meeting from which the flowers of friendship unfolds. Miracles such as these happen at most camps, most summers. What makes each summer unique, of course, is the mix of people at our Camps. Each year the result of this mixing of human chemistry creates its own unique spirit and character. As leaders we cannot totally control what the result will be BUT we can give it some direction. If we determine before Camp begins what standards, what goals and, what values we are going to set for ourselves ----- and then fight to implement them during Camp, surely the kids will have a better summer. What this country needs are men and women with some visions! We had precious few in the Sixties and, the Seventies have yet to reveal many either. What better environment than in one of our summer camps to develop some of these people? Whether it is by the Atlantic shore dreaming of mining the oceans OR in Quebec dreaming of a way to say in French and English those words all Canadians are waiting to hear, OR by an Ontario lake dreaming of how we can preserve this wilderness, which is unique in all this world, for our children OR on a Western river dreaming of how we can keep that fabulous sky over our heads clean and free from our contamination OR on a mountainside in British Columbia looking over a camp fire toward a scarlet sun setting in an ocean, dreaming about how we can save it from man's seemingly limitless powers to pollute and pillage. What better breeding grounds for visionaries?

As the summer approaches and we all look forward to "rekindling the fires of friendship" let us dedicate ourselves to making our Camps places not only where kids will have fun, not only will they learn to love their land but, also, places where some few will be able to reach the top of the mountain - see the miracle of the "VISION SPLENDID" and then, in their turn lead us toward a world which we can learn to love better and to leave better.



# KITCHEN WASTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

by Sam G. Hambly

Kitchen wastes can be a valuable resource for the ecology and conservation features of the camp program

The soil, water, sunlight and air are basic elements in determining the quality of environment. These are essential for the production of plants that provide food, shelter and beauty for the animal kingdom. Man is the thinking, reasoning species of this group. By the creative use of technological inventions, campers can assist nature in improving the quality of the camp environment. Kitchen wastes can provide a valuable resource for this purpose. Campers willingly provide the labour activity required.

In strolling through the woods, pick up a handful of duff. The skeletonized leaves of a deciduous tree reveals the action of forest bacterial and fungi, in consuming organic matter for soil making. Composting is a means of using this natural process by which all manner of organic waste is transferred to valuable black gold - fertile top-soil for plant production.

For composting organic camp kitchen waste at camp, all organic waste (any plant and animal remains, bones) from the dining hall and kitchen should be assembled in separate containers. In a convenient location set out a <sup>1</sup>12 foot diameter circle of snow fence. The snow fence may be supported by stakes or set inside a circular wall of spaced, removable cement blocks. Inside the circle of snow fence lay down an 18 inch deep layer of dry organic material. This may be hay, straw, grass, etc. from the camp grounds of duff collected from the floor of the forest - any dry plant remains. In the centre of the pile set a <sup>3</sup>45 gallon steel drum from which the top and bottom have been removed. This provides a funnel to channel the kitchen wastes dumped into the barrel into the centre of the heap. The area between the barrel and the snow fence should be covered with dry organic material, - hay, straw, duff, etc. well above the level of the bottom of the barrel. The top of the barrel should be fitted with a tight-fitting screen to exclude the flies. When half full the barrel should be rocked, raised and more dry material added between the barrel and the fence.

(cont. on page 7 )

This arrangement requires constant attention to avoid upsetting the balance and causing offensive odours. Compost production can be the responsibility of the maintenance, conservation or ecology department of the camp program. It must be serviced regularly. With care and attention it works.

For continuous results at the conclusion of the camp period the compost should be repled to admit air for bacterial action. This step will produce offensive odours and for this reason should be avoided during the camp period.

By the second season the compost pile of the previous year will have matured to the point at which it is ready for shredding. A shredder is a technological gimmick with a belt fitted with saw-toothed steel bars and driven by a motor (which pollutes the atmosphere). However, forking the compost into the hopper and watching it come spewing out is good sport for the campers.

Shredded compost has the pleasant woodsy earth-like odour of forest soil. It is rich in vital elements of plant growth, as proven by soil testing. At camp it can be used for earthworm culture. The campers propagate bait for fishing trips.

Examination with the camp microscope will reveal a variety of animal life living and thriving in the compost heap. This makes composting a valuable resource for the ecology department.

In conservation at camp the compost can be used by the campers for mulching the camp garden plants, thus improving the fertility of the garden plot. Hence the garden plot soil is made open and porous. It absorbs the rain and the melting snow water. Underground reservoirs are filled up. Hence, the water emerges to provide crystal clear water for swimming and canoeing. High quality environment for waterfront sports depends on our use of the watershed. Hence, campers who like to have quality conditions on the waterfront have a responsibility for the conservation practices of the watershed.

Mature compost from a previous year should be sprinkled over the entire surface of the new heap at regular intervals. This is a good means of stimulating the action of the culture. Manure is ideal for this purpose.

Other uses for compost from kitchen wastes are starting tree, vegetable, domestic and wild flower seedlings. It is most effective for use in a fluorescent light plant growth chamber.

(cont. on page 9)

# HEALTH

## ASTHMA AT CAMP

Mild asthma can be managed in a camp setting. The camper can participate in most activities except if it exposes the child to allergens to which he is susceptible. Exercise and stress can also trigger an asthmatic attack.

Preparation of medical and counselling staff can minimize the disruption caused by mild asthatic attacks. This preparation begins by asking, briefly, if the prospective camper has any medical problems, on the initial application form. If there are medical problems, a special, more detailed form is then sent to the parents to be returned a number of weeks before camp starts. The information thus provided allows the medical staff to stock the dispensary, educate the counselling staff how to deal with the problem, and to place the child in an environment as free of allergens as possible.

The children must bring all their medications with them and these must be kept and dispensed by the medical staff. Prior to out-trips, the counsellor should be instructed about the medications.

If an asthmatic attack occurs, the counsellor removes the camper from the activity and begins breathing exercises. This will often abort the attack, permitting the child to resume activity. If the attack continues, the camper should be taken to the medical staff who will administer his medication and observe the camper until the attack subsides. If the attack fails to respond, the child should be transported to a local medical facility.

There have been two recent death from anaphylactic reation following an allergy injection in a doctor's office. We advise that campers not be given their allergy injection in the camp setting. Parents can arrange to have the injection immediately before and after the camp period. If the family doctor feels it is essential that the injections be given during the camp period, then we strongly suggest that the camper be taken to a local medical centre for the injection, as a preferable alternative to administering it at camp.

Generally, however, asthmatics have little, if any, difficulty at camp. With few exceptions they need not be restricted from participating in this wholesome experience.

This is a summary of a talk given to the Society of Camp Directors

by Dr. S.M.L. Kirkpatrick



# PROGRAM

## PROGRAM IDEAS FOR COUNSELLORS

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT TILL IT'S WET!

- here are a few old and new ideas for Counsellors for rainy days, but suitable anytime.

"The Band" - have your campers make their own percussion instruments (washtubs, buckets, pot lids, frying pans are good). Practice a couple of popular camp songs, then accompany the camp during a singsong.

Light fires in the rain - have the cabin break into pairs and set up a competition. Give them some hot chocolate so they can make something hot to reward themselves for their efforts.

Set up a PingPong Tournament with another cabin (Plan this ahead of time and let your kids know. They will have something to look forward to and to prepare for.

"The Wet Look" could be the title of a series of pictures your campers take of "Camp in the Rain" which might be displayed in the Lodge at a later date.

"Who Am I?" - a game you can play in your cabin using ONLY camp personalities as your characters.

Make Canoe Shelters - then try sleeping in them that night - other kids will be interested and see how it is done.

Bingo! - have your cabin sponsor an evening of bingo on a rainy night. Have the campers negotiate with the senior camp staff. They might exchange doing some Camp Work Project for prizes they can give out at their bingo.

## KITCHEN WASTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

(cont from page 7 )

Camp personnel should not be misled by thinking that the disposal of kitchen garbage by composting is easy. it requires the interest, co-operation and support of all camp personnel. It can provide basic ecological and conservation concepts for creating quality environment.

Mr. Hambly is the Director of Camp Allsaw, a Natural Science Camp in Halliburton, Ont.

Take a step in the right  
direction. Take a few.



Get your rear in gear.  
Take a walk.



Walk a block a day. -  
It's the first step.



# HIRING STAFF?

## IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS CONCERNING CAMP STAFF FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

In a letter to Mr. Jack Pearse, President of the Canadian Camping Association, Mr. Duncan R. Campbell, Executive Director, Labour Market Policy of the Ministry of Employment and Immigration, 305 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0J9 says:

" While it was agreed that job offers made to foreign camp counsellors were not to be exempt from Manpower validation in 1978, our further review of the situation indicates that a change now, to take place for this summer, would pose difficulties. As you are aware, the revised Immigration Act and Regulations are to be implemented April 10, 1978. In order to minimize the administrative difficulties on CCA members and the foreign camp counsellors they wish to recruit, it has been decided that the present exemption from Manpower Certification will be retained for the 1978 summer season, with the change likely coming this fall.

In the meantime, your cooperation in notifying CCA members of the administrative changes resulting from the implementation of the revised legislation would be appreciated. Under the provisions of the new legislation, non-immigrants wishing to work in Canada must obtain employment authorization prior to their arrival at a port of entry. Camp operators wishing to recruit foreign camp counsellors should forward these persons a detailed offer of employment as soon as possible. The letters should clearly establish that the employer is a member in good standing of the Canadian Camping Association. The prospective employee should then contact the responsible Canadian post abroad in order to initiate processing of his/her application for employment authorization. Once the necessary documentation has been issued the person may then proceed to the Canadian port of entry."

The new procedure requires the employee to arrange for Employment Authorization Form Imm. 1102) from their nearest or appropriate Canadian Embassy or Consulate.

The employee must have an employment letter from the camp director and must send or take that letter to the Embassy or Consulate to receive the Employment Authorization Form. Therefore two copies of the letter are suggested. The letter should state that the camp is an accredited member of the Canadian Camping Association, and that the foreign employee will be working from (date) to (date) as a camp counsellor or in similar leadership roles.

The letter and the Employment Authorization must both be presented at the border point of entry. If the foreign staff is already in Canada the document must be obtained at a Canada Manpower Centre.

In addition, the employee must have a social insurance number to work in Canada.

### BRITAIN

LONDON Canada House, Trafalgar Square, Entrance on Pall Mall East, London, SW1Y 5BJ. Tel. (01) 930-9741.

\*BELFAST The Canadian Consulate, 22 North Street, Belfast 1, BT1 1LA. Tel. (0232) 27365/6.

\*BIRMINGHAM The Canadian Consulate, Bristol and West Bldg., 2 St., Philips Place, Birmingham, B3 2QJ. Tel. (021) 233-2127.

\*GLASGOW The Canadian Consulate, Ashley House, 181/195 West George Street, Glasgow. G2 2HS. Tel. (041) 248-3026.

## FRANCE

PARIS The Canadian Embassy Consular Section, 4, rue Ventadour, 75001 Paris. Tel. (01) 073-15-83.

BORDEAUX The Canadian Consulate General, 15 allées de Chartres, 33080-Bordeaux. Tel. (056) 52-36-89/90/91.

MARSEILLE The Canadian Consulate General, 24, Avenue du Prado, 13006 Marseille. Tel. (091) 37-19-37/40.

STRASBOURG The Canadian Consulate General, le Kleber Center, 10 Place du Temple Neuf, 67007 Strasbourg. Tel. 32-65-96.

ISRAEL The Canadian Embassy, 220 Hayarkon, P.O. Box 6410, TEL AVIV. Tel 228122/6.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WASHINGTON The Canadian Embassy, 1746 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Tel. (202) 785-1400.

ATLANTA The Canadian Consulate General, 900 Coastal States Bldg., 260 Peachtree St., Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Tel. (404) 577-6810.

BOSTON The Canadian Consulate General, 500 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass. 02116. Tel. (617) 262-3760.

BUFFALO The Canadian Consulate, One Marine Midland Centre, Suite 3550, Buffalo, New York 14203. Tel. (716) 852-1247.

CHICAGO The Canadian Consulate General, Suite 2000, 310 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Tel. (312) 427-1031.

CLEVELAND The Canadian Consulate, Illuminating Building, 55 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. Tel. (216) 771-0150.

DALLAS The Canadian Consulate, 2001 Bryan Tower, Suite 1600, Dallas, Texas 75201. Tel. (214) 742-8031.

DETROIT The Canadian Consulate, 1920 First Federal Building, 1001 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48226. Tel. (313) 965-2811.

LOS ANGELES The Canadian Consulate General, 510 West Sixth St., Los Angeles, California 90014. Tel. (213) 627-9511.

MINNEAPOLIS The Canadian Consulate, 15 South Fifth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402. Tel. (612) 336-4641.

NEW ORLEANS The Canadian Consulate General, Suite 2110, International Trade Mart, 2 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Tel. (504) 525-2136.

NEW YORK The Canadian Consulate General, 1251 Avenue of the Americas, 16th floor, New York, N.Y. 10020. Tel. (212) 586-2400.

PHILADELPHIA The Canadian Consulate, Suite 1310, Three Parkway Building, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. Tel. (215) 561-1750.

SAN FRANCISCO The Canadian Consulate General, 1 Maritime Plaza, Golden Gateway Centre, San Francisco, Calif. 94111. Tel. (415) 981-2670.

SEATTLE The Canadian Consulate General, 412 Plaza 600, Sixth and Stewart Sts., Seattle, Washington 98101. Tel. (206) 447-3804.

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society generally for year round outdoor recreation and living. Childrens' camps have endeavored to give campers the basic physical skills and knowledge to travel through and live in the wilderness country, be it bush and lake, plains and rivers or mountains and desert. It has also provided specialized sports camps for the elite athlete in the making.

Each of these changes has required camping people to examine their purposes and make the adjustments to better fit the current social needs and values. Most of the pioneers have gone. The generation which took over from them are on their way out too. So it is a good time now for camp directors and educators to look ahead to the next two decades and select or alter their purposes to suit those times which will be different but no less interesting, challenging and rewarding than the previous ones have been to their predecessors. And it's a time when we shouldn't try to be too practical. Living dangerously is a vibrant stimulator to vigorous action.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."

Mr. Blackstock has been involved with camping for 50 years. He has directed Bolton Fresh Air Camp, Camp Pinecrest and Mazinaw. He is a Consultant with the National Sport and Recreation Centre in Ottawa.

6116-800 NSSI

TORONTO, ONTARIO M4P 1E1  
SUITE 203, 102 EGLINTON AVENUE EAST  
*canadian camping association*  
*association des camps du canada*

